Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

[1] (Currently amended) A surface-treated steel sheet for a battery case, ~~characterized by having~~comprising: a steel sheet; and a nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer formed on its surface which ~~will define~~ defines the inner surface of the battery case.

[2] (Currently amended) A surface-treated steel sheet for a battery case, according to claim 1, further comprising ~~characterized by having~~ a nickel plating layer formed between the steel sheet and ~~as an under layer and~~ a nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer ~~formed as a top layer on its surface which will define the inner surface of the battery case~~.

[3] (Currently amended) A surface-treated steel sheet for a battery case according to claim 1, ~~characterized by having~~further comprising an iron-nickel diffusion layer formed ~~as an under layer and a~~ between the steel sheet and the nickel- phosphorus alloy plating layer ~~formed as a top layer on its surface which will define the inner surface of the battery case~~.

[4] (Currently amended) A surface-treated steel sheet for a battery case according to claim 1, ~~characterized by having~~further comprising an iron-nickel diffusion layer ~~formed as an under layer,~~and a nickel layer formed ~~as an intermediate layer and a~~ between the steel sheet and the nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer; wherein the iron-nickel diffusion layer is formed as an under layer, and the nickel layer is formed as an intermediate layer~~formed as a top layer on its surface which will define the inner surface of the battery case~~.

[5] (Currently amended) A surface-treated steel sheet for a battery case as set forth in claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 4~~, wherein the nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer has a thickness in the range of 0.1 to 2 μm.

[6] (Currently amended) A surface-treated steel sheet for a battery case as set forth in ~~any of claims~~ claim 1 ~~to 5~~, wherein the nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer has a phosphorus content in the range of 1 to 12% by weight.

[7] (Currently amended) A surface-treated steel sheet for a battery case as set forth in ~~any of claims~~ claim ~~1 to~~ 6, wherein the nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer contains 5 to 70% by weight of cobalt.

[8] (Original) A battery case characterized by having a nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer formed on its inner surface.

[9] (Original) A battery case characterized by having a nickel plating layer formed as an under layer and a nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer formed as a top layer on its inner surface.

[10] (Original) A battery case characterized by having an iron-nickel diffusion layer formed as an under layer and a nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer formed as a top layer on its inner surface.

[11] (Original) A battery case characterized by having an iron-nickel diffusion layer formed as an under layer, a nickel layer as an intermediate layer and a nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer formed as a top layer on its inner surface.

[12] (Currently amended) A battery case as set forth in ~~any of claims~~ claim 8 ~~to 11~~, wherein the nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer has a phosphorus content in the range of 1 to 12% by weight.

[13] (Currently amended) A battery case as set forth in ~~any of claims~~ claim 8 ~~to 12~~, wherein the nickel-phosphorus alloy plating layer contains 5 to 70% by weight of cobalt.

[14] (Currently amended) A battery case as set forth in ~~any of claims~~ claim 8 ~~to 13~~, and formed by a deep drawing, DI or DTR method.

[15] (Currently amended) A battery characterized by employing a battery case as set forth in ~~any of claims~~ claim 8 ~~to 14~~ and packing its interior with cathode and anode active materials.